



The Value of Arizona GED Testing

The GED Tests make it possible for qualified individuals to earn a high school credential so that they may pursue higher education, get a job or a job promotion, and achieve personal goals

The General Educational Development (GED) Testing Program provides an opportunity for adults who have not graduated from high school to earn a high school equivalency diploma by passing the GED Test. The GED Diploma is the certification of foundation skills in problem solving, communication and computation. The GED Test is normed on graduating high school seniors; one-third of these seniors are unable to pass the GED Test.

The GED Test is over seven hours long and consists of five sub-tests:

- The Language Arts/Writing Test
- The Language Arts/Reading Test
- The Social Studies Test
- The Science Test
- The Mathematics Test



The GED Test was revised in 2002. The content of the GED 2002 Series Test places a greater emphasis on workplace and higher education needs. The major changes include:

- Inclusion of higher order thinking skills;
- Increased emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving;
- Incorporation of more business related material;
- Inclusion of higher level problem-solving skills in Mathematics;
- Incorporation of alternative format or open-ended questions in Mathematics;
- Usage of a scientific calculator in one part of the Mathematics test.

Facts About GED Testing

- **10,893 GED Diplomas were issued in Arizona during Fiscal Year 2002.**
- **Over 25% of all high school diplomas issued in Arizona each year are earned through GED Testing.**
- **57% of those taking the GED Test were 16 to 22 years of age during Fiscal Year 2002.**
- **Earning a GED Diploma allows the graduate to enroll in post-secondary education, obtain employment or advance in their current job, and model lifelong learning habits to members of their family, community and to co-workers and employers.**
- **GED graduates are admitted to the state community colleges just like traditional high school graduates.**
- **Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and The University of Arizona admit GED graduates who have scored at a specified level above the GED Test passing score.**
- **A GED Diploma enables the student to apply for financial aid, which is often the support needed for those who cannot afford the cost of a post-secondary program.**
- **An individual without a high school diploma will earn considerably less than someone with a GED or high school diploma.**
- **There is no designated funding to cover the costs of administration of the GED Testing Program in Arizona. The GED Diploma and transcripts are issued by the State of Arizona through the Arizona Department of Education, Division of Adult and Family Literacy Education.**